

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198253

70

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 STR-04 AGR-10

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05

CIEP-02 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 FEA-01 /136 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/STA:BBISHOP:DI

APPROVED BY EB/OT/STA:WCLARK

STR:KGUENTHER

ARA/BR:TSHUGART (INFO)

EUR/RPE:JMCCARTHY (INFO)

ARA/ECP:MDAVILA (INFO)

EA/ROC:KWEAVER (INFO)

EA/K:JFORBES (INFO)

EUR/WE:EROWELL (INFO)

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P 202243Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 198253

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BR, KS, TW, SP, IT

SUBJECT: FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY FILES ESCAPE CLAUSE PETITION

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PAGE 02 STATE 198253

REF: STATE 194437

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE AMERICAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (AFIA) ON AUGUST 20, 1975. BEGIN TEXT.

MARK E. RICHARDSON, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BOOT AND SHOE WORKERS UNION AND THE UNITED SHOE WORKERS OF AMERICA, THE AMERICAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION HAS FILED AN "ESCAPE CLAUSE" PETITION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974.

THE PETITION REQUESTS THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE SERIOUS INJURY SUFFERED BY THE AMERICAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRIES DUE TO INCREASED IMPORTS OF NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR. THE PETITION ALSO REQUESTS AS RELIEF THAT MANDATORY IMPORT QUOTAS BE ESTABLISHED ON A PRODUCT BY PRODUCT AND COUNTRY BY COUNTRY BASIS.

THE TRADE ACT OF 1974 PERMITS GROUPS OF FIRMS AND WORKERS TO SEEK RELIEF WHERE IMPORTS ARE A "SUBSTANTIAL CAUSE OF SERIOUS INJURY" TO THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY. IN REQUESTING SUCH RELIEF, PETITIONERS NOTED "NO OTHER INDUSTRY RECEIVED GREATER ATTENTION TO ITS PLIGHT IN THE TRADE ACT OF 1974 THAN DID FOOTWEAR; NO OTHER SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY HAS BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED TO HAVE SUFFERED FROM IMPORTS AS THIS INDUSTRY HAS; AND NO OTHER AMERICAN WORKERS HAVE BEEN FORCED BY CIRCUMSTANCES TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE TO THE DEGREE FOOTWEAR WORKERS HAVE.

THE PETITION INCLUDED EXTENSIVE DATA SUBSTANTIATING THE REQUEST FOR RELIEF.

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT, THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION MUST ACT WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE A PETITION IS FILED. IF THE COMMISSION DECIDES THAT RELIEF IS WARRANTED, SUCH FINDING IS TRANSMITTED TO THE PRESIDENT AND WOULD BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON HIS APPROVAL. END TEXT.

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PAGE 03 STATE 198253

2. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED FOLLOWING RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF AMERICAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION PETITION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, COMMITTEES, SHOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE198253
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BBISHOP:DI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750288-0771
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750834/aaaabdpl.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 194437
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 DEC 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 DEC 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY FILES ESCAPE CLAUSE PETITION UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: ETRD, BR, KS, TW, SP, IT
To: BRASILIA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006